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New York critics laud 'The Social Network' Share Print

'Kids' racks up three awards

By GORDON COX

"The Social Network" can now include the New York Film Critics Circle in its growing list of friends, with a win for best film adding to the pic's awards-season momentum.

Sony pic, which also scored the director nod for helmer David Fincher, added the Gotham critics' prize to best-pic wins from the National Board of Review and multiple critics' orgs, including those in Los Angeles, Boston and Toronto.

The fictionalized take on the creation of Facebook attracted favor in part because of its zeitgeisty subject matter, according to NYFCC chair Armond White of the New York Press. "The win for 'Social Network' is also a win for new media," White said.

The NYFCC also did right by "The Kids Are All Right," giving it three wins, the most of any movie this year. The Focus Features comedy took home kudos for actress Annette Bening, supporting actor Mark Ruffalo and screenplay (by Lisa Cholodenko and Stuart Blumberg), a category dominated elsewhere by Aaron Sorkin's script for "The Social Network."

Other oft-mentioned award contenders also garnered support, with Colin Firth snagging the actor award for the Weinstein Co.'s "The King's Speech" and supporting actress going to Melissa Leo for Paramount's just-released "The Fighter." Fox Searchlight's "Black Swan" took the cinematography prize for Matthew Libatique, echoing his citation by the L.A. critics.

Sony Pictures Classics walked away with a hat trick, with "Inside Job" taking the docu category, "The Illusionist" winning the animated category and "Animal Kingdom" nabbing first feature honors. IFC Films' biographical miniseries "Carlos" won foreign-language film.

NYFCC is made up of 31 Gotham-based journo's, most of whom write for print outlets. Voting was held Monday morning at the Regency Hotel, with an awards presentation ceremony set for Jan. 10.

The 2010 New York Film Critics Circle Award Winners

Best Film – **"The Social Network"**
 Best Director – **David Fincher ("The Social Network")**
 Best Screenplay – **Lisa Cholodenko & Stuart Blumberg ("The Kids Are All Right")**
 Best Actress – **Annette Bening (for "The Kids Are All Right")**
 Best Actor – **Colin Firth ("The King's Speech")**
 Best Supporting Actress – **Melissa Leo ("The Fighter")**
 Best Supporting Actor – **Mark Ruffalo ("The Kids Are All Right")**
 Best Cinematography – **Matthew Libatique ("The Black Swan")**
 Best Animated Film – **"The Illusionist"**



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Best Non-fiction Film – **"Inside Job"**
Best Foreign Language Film - **"Carlos"**
Best First Feature – **"Animal Kingdom"**

Contact Gordon Cox at gordon.cox@variety.com
